

1 Amendments to the Specification

2 Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 24 and  
3 ending on page 10, line 14 with the following rewritten paragraphs:  
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5 The flex circuit comprises thin film insulating layers and  
6 conductive trace layers that are fabricated one layer at a time.  
7 The flex circuit has copper conductor traces. The conductor traces  
8 can be etched in the shape of a weld pad. Preferably, the bottom  
9 sheet of the flex circuit is a polyimide sheet, for example, a  
10 sheet of Kapton, with a portion removed locally around the weld  
11 pad. This is accomplished as an initial step during construction of  
12 the flex circuit. Once the ~~insulting~~ insulating material is removed  
13 from the weld area, a copper film can be bonded to the insulating  
14 sheet. The copper film is then etched to create the weld pads and  
15 conductor traces. An additional cover polyimide layer, not shown,  
16 may also be bonded on top of the flex circuit to cover the  
17 conductor traces. Both insulating polyimide layers have the same  
18 portion removed around the weld area so that the copper conductor  
19 trace is exposed on both sides of the flex circuit for direct  
20 welding to the wrap around contact. A laser wire stripper can also  
21 be used to specifically remove the portion of the insulating sheet  
22 around the weld area.

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